



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** March 11, 2008

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Administrative Division, Parks and Recreation Department

**SUBJECT:** Urban Forest Inventory Grant

### RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopt, by reading of title only, A Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Authorizing the Parks and Recreation Director to Enter into an Agreement with the State of California for up to \$42,000 in Grant Funds Under Proposition 40, California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood, Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002 and Proposition 84, Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality And Supply, Flood Control, River Protection, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 for the City of Santa Barbara Urban Forest Inventory Project.

### DISCUSSION:

In September 2007, the Parks and Recreation Department submitted a grant proposal to the California Department of Fire and Forestry (CALFIRE) under the Urban Forestry Program. The proposal requested \$42,000 in grant funds for implementation of an urban forestry inventory project. The purpose of the project is to complete a comprehensive inventory of the City of Santa Barbara's publicly owned urban forest. The grant proposal requested funds for the completion of the urban forest inventory and the development of outreach materials, including 4 tree tour maps and a community tree guide.

CALFIRE selected the grant proposal and requires a detailed application in order to finalize the grant and develop a grant agreement with the City. A resolution of the City Council authorizing the Parks and Recreation Director to enter into a grant agreement with the State is required as part of the detailed application.

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REVIEWED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ Finance \_\_\_\_\_ Attorney

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**BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

The total cost of the project is \$115,310. The Parks and Recreation Department has matching funds in the amount of \$73,310 in the Fiscal Year 2008 Operating Budget. City funds are dedicated to the urban forest inventory data collection (\$68,310) and printing costs for the community tree guide (\$5,000). CALFIRE grant funds will be used to supplement the urban forest inventory (\$24,000) and the development of the 4 tree tour maps and the community tree guide (\$18,000). CALFIRE requires at least a 50 percent matching contribution.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:**

Tree inventories are an essential tool of good management by gathering accurate information on the health and diversity of the urban forest. A healthy urban forest is considered by experts to be a key environmental component of regional, national, and global sustainability.

**PREPARED BY:** Jill E. Zachary, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director

**SUBMITTED BY:** Nancy L. Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office